Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 00:00 on Friday 02 Feb 2024 until 23:59 on Saturday 03 Feb 2024

Forecast Issued on Thursday 01 Feb 2024 at 11:24

Confidence: Generally high confidence but moderate for detail of weather fronts.

Headline for Friday 02 Feb 2024: Cloudy and windy with outbreaks of drizzle or light rain throughout the day.

Mountain weather hazards on Friday 02 Feb 2024

Blizzards No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent snow** No Likelihood	**Storm force winds** No Likelihood
Gales High Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** Low Likelihood	**Poor visibility** Medium Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** No Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Drizzle	Drizzle	Drizzle	Dull	Dull	Light rain	Cloudy	Partly cloudy (night)
Precipitation probability							
60%	60%	60%	30%	30%	70%	30%	20%

Forecast for Friday 02 Feb 2024

Weather: Low cloud feeding in from the northwest throughout much of the day bringing with it outbreaks of light rain or drizzle. Perhaps a few brighter breaks during the afternoon. Cloud breaking up later in the evening to give some clear spells. Strong southwesterly winds throughout.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 10%, increasing 30% for a time during the afternoon, increasing to 60-70% towards midnight.

Low cloud and visibility: Broken or overcast low cloud base 400-600m, becoming scattered for a time during the afternoon. Few cloud base 500-700m by late evening. Visibility poor in hill fog, moderate at times in rain, otherwise good.

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Forecast for Friday 02 Feb 2024

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	38/47 SW	34/43 SW	38/48 SW	41/52 SW	41/53 SW	40/52 SW	40/52 W	38/50 W	36/47 W
600	29/39 SW	29/39 SW	29/40 SW	31/43 SW	32/45 SW	30/42 SW	32/45 W	30/44 W	29/42 W
300	10/30 SW	11/31 SW	13/33 SW	13/36 SW	13/36 SW	13/36 SW	14/37 W	14/36 W	15/35 W
Valley	11/27 SW	12/28 SW	13/29 SW	15/33 SW	15/34 SW	14/32 SW	14/33 SW	15/32 SW	15/32 SW

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	3/-4	4/-3	4/-3	5/-2	5/-2	5/-2	5/-2	5/-2	4/-2
600	5/-1	5/-1	6/-0	6/0	6/0	6/1	7/1	6/1	6/0
300	6/3	7/3	7/4	8/4	8/5	8/5	8/5	8/5	8/4
Valley	8/5	8/5	8/6	9/6	9/6	10/7	10/7	10/7	9/6
Freezing Level*	2300m	2100m	2000m	2000m	1800m	2300m	1900m	1700m	1500m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Be aware of very strong winds at height.

Forecast for Saturday 03 Feb 2024

Weather: Patchy cloud and sunny spells on Saturday. Chance of a little light rain or drizzle during the early hours then mainly dry throughout the day. Perhaps the odd shower later in the afternoon or evening.

Maximum wind: West to southwesterly 15-20 mph gusting 30-40 mph

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 30-40% at first, improving 80% by morning

Low cloud and visibility: Scattered or broken 500-700m at first, breaking up by morning, few base 700-800m at times. Generally good visibility out with early cloud.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Plus 7 to 10 Celsius
At 800m: Plus 1 to 4 Celsius
Freezing level: Above summits, dropping to 1000m into the afternoon

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Thursday 1 February 2024 Location: Helvellyn summit at 12:10 Full report: There has been a thaw over the past 24 hours which has raised the snowline to around 850m. Isolated patches of ice were present from above 750m most noticeably where snow has been compacted on popular routes and in hollows where puddles had frozen. Below 850m some of these were already thawing. Above 850m, the snow cover is now patchy with only a light covering and some areas completely clear. The exception is above 900m on predominantly north and particularly east facing slopes where the majority of snow now lies much of which has been present for some weeks. Such snow is hard, icy and up to 60cm deep. However, owing to their locations such snowbanks are generally avoidable and present no obstacles to walkers. An exception to this, are the exits to both Striding and especially Swirral Edge where there is a bank of steep, deep, unavoidable snow which was icy today. By exiting to the south of the normal route most, but not all, of Striding's snow can be avoided but this is not the case for Swirral. Although far less compared with Wednesday, there was still a lot of ice on the summit plateau. Despite the milder weather in the valleys, the summit windchill (what the temperature actually feels like) around midday was minus 9 degrees C with the actual temperature at zero degrees. Thus, full winter clothing (waterproofs – which double as windproofs - , extra warm layers, hat and gloves), mountain boots and equipment including a torch and map and compass (with the skills to use them) are all essential to safely, and enjoyably, roam the fells. Walkers heading for the highest fells are also highly recommended to carry microspikes owing to the amount of ice on popular routes and most especially on the summit plateau where there is still sufficient ice present to make walking tricky without them. Walkers attempting steep and exposed routes above the snowline, such as the Helvellyn Edges, are strongly recommended to also carry an ice axe as well as crampons or microspikes. A slip on Swirral Edge's exit of unavoidable snow without the means to stop yourself could seriously ruin your day. Temperature: minus 0.1 C, Maximum wind speed 25.6 mph, Wind chill: minus 8.5 C, Average wind speed: 21.3 mph

Issued at: 1803 on Thu 01 Feb 2024

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